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**PATENT APPLICATION
DOCKET NO. 10990268-3**

**IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

INVENTOR(S): Arlin R. Jones

CONFIRMATION NO.:

SERIAL NO.

GROUP ART UNIT: 2622

FILED: September 14, 1999

EXAMINER: Cheukfan Lee

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF ARTIFACTS IN A SCANNING DEVICE

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATIONS
THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

SIR:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This preliminary amendment is filed for the enclosed continuation application. The Applicant's respectfully request amendment of the continuation application as shown in the following. No new matter has been added to this continuation application.

In response to the office action (Paper No. 6) for the parent application mailed on March 12, 2003, which was a non-final rejection, the Applicants canceled the claims 1-12 in the parent application, without waiver of disclaimer of the subject matter of these claims. Patentability of the claims 1-12 canceled from the parent application are pursued in the continuation application to which this preliminary amendment is directed.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may be otherwise provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this preliminary amendment, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2

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